

REMARKS

Claims 1-32 are pending. By this Amendment, claims 1, 2 5, 14, 18, 29, 31 and 32 are cancelled, claims 3, 6, 11, 15, 16, 19, 24 and 30 are amended and new claims 33-41 are added. Support for the present amendments as well as the newly added claims is found within the claims as originally filed. No new matter is introduced by way of the present amendment.

Abstract

In the Office Action mailed October 3, 2007, the Abstract was objected to as lacking proper language and format. In response, Applicant has amended the Abstract as suggested by the Examiner. As such, Applicant respectfully requests said rejection be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC 102

In the Office Action mailed October 3, 2007, claim 1 was rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,750,904 to Lambert. For purposes of advancing prosecution, Applicant has herein cancelled claim 1. Applicant in no way acquiesces with respect to the appropriateness of said rejection and respectfully reserves all arguments against said rejection, including the ability to present claims of similar scope in future continuing applications.

In the Office Action mailed October 3, 2007, claims 1-2 and 14-15 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,473,364 to Burt. For purposes of advancing prosecution, Applicant has herein cancelled claims 1-2 and 14 and has amended claim 15 to depend from a claim indicated by the Examiner as having allowable subject matter.

Applicant in no way acquiesces with respect to the appropriateness of said rejections and respectfully reserves all arguments against said rejections, including the ability to present claims of similar scope in future continuing applications.

In the Office Action mailed October 3, 2007, claims 29, 31 and 32 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,418,993 to Lipton. For purposes of advancing prosecution, Applicant has herein cancelled claims 29, 31 and 32. Applicant in no way acquiesces with respect to the appropriateness of said rejections and respectfully reserves all arguments against said rejections, including the ability to present claims of similar scope in future continuing applications.

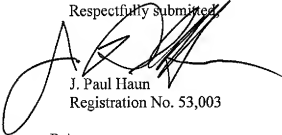
Amendments and New Claims

In the Office Action mailed October 3, 2007, claims 3-9, 11-13, 16-26 and 30 were indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form. By way of the present amendment, claims 3 and 16 have been amended into independent form and new independent claims 33 and 37 (including the subject matter of prior dependent claims 5 and 18) have been added, all of which include subject matter previously indicated as being allowable.

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned if the Examiner believes it would be useful to advance prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

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